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GENERAL

S/1996/792
26 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 26 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF EGYPT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the letter addressed to you this morning by the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia concerning the recent developments in the Palestinian occupied territories.

In view of the gravity and urgency of the situation, the Government of Egypt supports the request forwarded in the above-mentioned letter and calls for the immediate convening of the Security Council to consider this alarming situation.

(Signed) Nabil ELARABY
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of Egypt

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A/51/416
S/1996/793
26 September 1996

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 33
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 26 September 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer your attention to General Assembly/Security Council document A/51/400-S/1996/779.

The restoration of the Western Wall tunnel was undertaken as part of an ongoing effort by Israel both to reveal major archaeological finds in Jerusalem and to improve the tourism infrastructure in the Old City. The tunnel, in fact, has been opened to tourists and pilgrims for years. The opening of the new, additional entrance was initiated only to improve access to the tunnel and provide visitors with greater comfort and safety.

The tunnel itself, which dates from ancient times, runs the length of the Western Wall, one of Judaism's holiest sites, and allows pedestrians to enter one of the oldest subterranean paths in Jerusalem from the Western Wall plaza and exit onto the Via Dolorosa. Despite Palestinian charges to the contrary, at no point does the tunnel run beneath the Temple Mount.

The above-mentioned document attempts to link the Western Wall tunnel in a direct way to the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Such a characterization is both deceitful and misleading. The tunnel neither traverses nor affects the Al-Aqsa Mosque or its foundations.

The re-excavation of the tunnel was conducted under the supervision of archaeologists and engineers for the purpose of providing greater access to the sites holy to so many people, Jews, Christians and Muslims alike. The opening of the tunnel neither damaged any archaeological or religious sites, nor endangered the security or the integrity of such structures in the Old City, Islamic or otherwise. Israel has always striven to respect and preserve the sites in Jerusalem which are holy to so many. To this end, Israel remains committed to maintaining freedom of worship for all religions in Jerusalem.

The Palestinian attempt to distort and manipulate the facts surrounding the Western Wall tunnel is a blatant effort to create a crisis in order to pressure Israel. The Palestinian Authority, instead of attempting to cool passions and use its authority and ability in a responsible manner, has only served to incite and inflame the Palestinian people. This is a cynical misuse of its obligations and responsibilities.

During the last two days, 12 Israelis have been killed and 54 more injured by the armed Palestinian security forces. It is indeed both ironic and tragic that Israelis have been killed by the very weapons which Israel provided to the Palestinian Authority, also as agreed upon in the Interim Agreement.

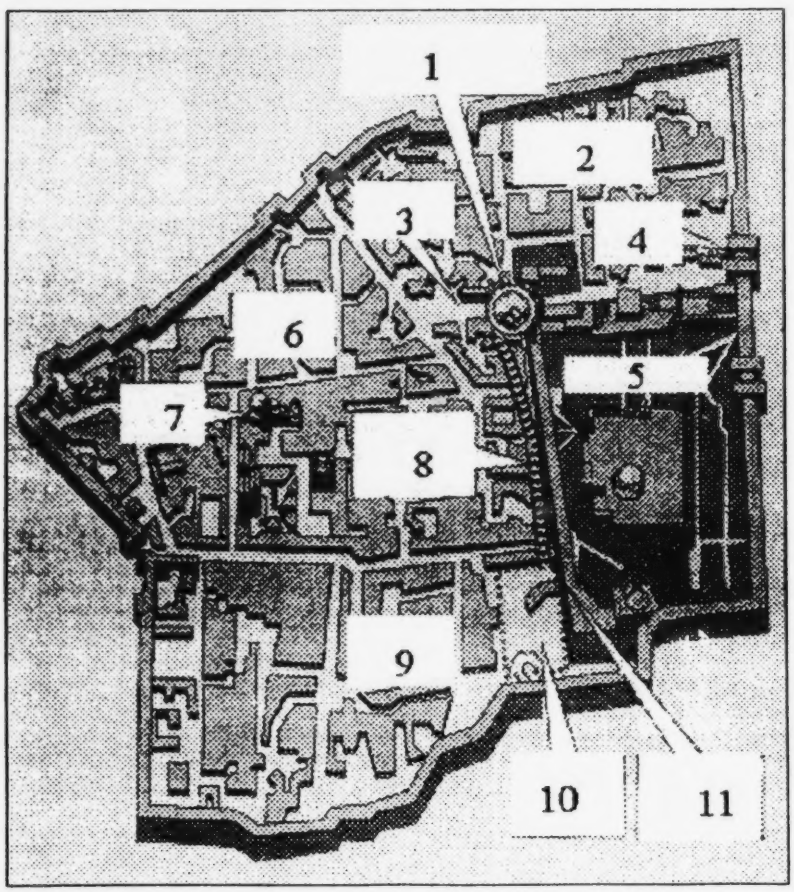
In light of the violent and apparently orchestrated events of the last several days, Israel and the Palestinian Authority should "foster mutual understanding and tolerance", as provided by the Interim Agreement.

Attached please find an accurate map of the area in question.

I would be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) David PELEG
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Western Wall Tunnel - Diagram



Legend:

1. New entrance to tunnel
2. Moslem Quarter
3. Via Dolorosa
4. Lions' Gate
5. Temple Mount
6. Christian Quarter
7. Church of the Holy Sepulchre
8. Path of the tunnel
9. Jewish Quarter
10. Western Wall Plaza
11. Western Wall

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A/51/417
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26 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 15 (c)
ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN PRINCIPAL ORGANS: ELECTION OF FIVE MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

List of candidates nominated by national groups

Note by the Secretary-General

Further to the Secretary-General's note of 6 September 1996 (A/51/334-S/1996/723), which contained the names of the candidates nominated by national groups received by him as at 31 August 1996, the deadline for receiving nominations, the Secretary-General has subsequently received the following additional nominations submitted by national groups (the date of receipt is also indicated):

Name and nationality	Nominated by the national group of
Bedjaoui, Mohammed (Algeria)	France (16 September 1996) Argentina (18 September 1996) Brazil (19 September 1996) Austria (20 September 1996) Poland (20 September 1996) Venezuela (23 September 1996)
Kooijmans, Pieter H. (Netherlands)	Poland (20 September 1996) Nigeria (23 September 1996)

Name and nationality	Nominated by the national group of
Rezek, Francisco (Brazil)	Poland (20 September 1996) Paraguay (24 September 1996)
Pastor Ridruejo, José Antonio (Spain)	Colombia (9 September 1996) Portugal (12 September 1996) France (16 September 1996) Nicaragua (18 September 1996) Panama (23 September 1996)
Robinson, Patrick (Jamaica)	Saint Lucia (18 September 1996)
Schwebel, Stephen M. (United States of America)	France (16 September 1996) Brazil (19 September 1996)
Vereshchetin, Vladlen S. (Russian Federation)	France (16 September 1996) Brazil (19 September 1996)

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A/51/418
S/1996/795
26 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda item 35
QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 26 September 1996 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I wish to express the greatest anxiety at the escalation of violence in the occupied Palestinian territory following Israel's decision to open a new entrance to the archaeological tunnel in East Jerusalem which runs under Arab property along the western wall of the Al-Haram al-Sharif, the third-largest site of Islam.

According to reports in the media, protest demonstrations by Palestinians were met with live ammunition, rubber bullets and tear gas by Israeli troops. Clashes have taken place in the West Bank towns of Ramallah, Bethlehem, Halhoul near Hebron, Jenin, and Qalqilya, as well as in the Gaza Strip. There have been reports that Israeli troops entered areas under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority, and that gunfire was exchanged with Palestinian policemen. The latest press dispatches indicate that 40 Palestinians and 11 Israelis have been killed, and several hundred have been injured, the highest toll since the intifadah.

The Committee wishes to remind the international community that these tragic developments follow repeated warnings about the devastating consequences for Palestinian hopes and living conditions, of the delayed implementation by Israel of the agreements already reached, its prolonged closure of the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, the resumption of land confiscation and settlement, and actions against Palestinian property and institutions in Jerusalem. The Committee believes that current events demonstrate the fragility of the peace process and calls on Israel urgently to reverse its measures, to promote reconciliation with the Palestinian people and to resume substantive negotiations towards a just final settlement in accordance with international legitimacy.

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The Committee further believes that the current serious situation engages the responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security in the area, and associates itself with the call for an urgent meeting of the Council to consider the developments in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ibra Deguène KA
Chairman of the
Committee on the Exercise
of the Inalienable Rights
of the Palestinian People

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Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1996/796
26 September 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 24 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT OBSERVER FOR THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Pursuant to Article 54 of the Charter of the United Nations, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the texts of two statements adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States meeting at the level of Ministers for Foreign Affairs on 14 September 1996 at its one hundred and sixth regular session. I should be grateful if you would bring the statements to the attention of the President of the Security Council and if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Mahmoud ABOUL-NASR
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the
League of Arab States

96-25498 (E) 260996 260996 270996

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Annex 1

Statement adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States on 14 September 1996 concerning the situation in northern Iraq

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting in Cairo on 14 September 1996 at the level of Ministers for Foreign Affairs,

Having heard the statements made by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs at their consultative meeting this morning concerning the grave situation created in northern Iraq by Turkish violations of Iraqi territory on the pretext of establishing a so-called "security zone" or "danger zone" and the consequent repercussions for Arab national security,

Having expressed its deep concern at the way the situation has developed as a result of territorial intrusions that threaten the unity, security and integrity of the territory of the Republic of Iraq,

Affirms the following:

1. Its strong condemnation of interference by certain geographically contiguous States in the internal affairs of the territory of an Arab State and a member of the League of Arab States;

2. Its strong commitment to the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Iraq and its desire that it should not be subjected to attempts at intimidation;

3. Its full support for the Iraqi people and for the endeavour to mitigate its suffering. In this context, the Council urges the speedy implementation of the "oil-for-food" formula in accordance with Security Council resolution 986 (1995).

Annex 2

Statement adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States on 14 September 1996 concerning the dispute between Yemen and Eritrea

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having heard the statement of His Excellency Mr. Abduh Ali Abd al-Rahman, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Yemen, concerning the latest developments in the situation in the southern Red Sea area created by the landing of Eritrean forces on Yemen's Lesser Hanish Island in the first week of August 1996 and their occupation of positions there,

Commending the positions adopted by the Government of the Republic of Yemen in addressing the crisis, which have been characterized by the greatest self-restraint, and its responsible attitude aimed at preventing any aggravation or deterioration of the situation in the area,

Further commending the position taken by the United Nations Security Council, the role it has played in urging the parties to the dispute to exercise the utmost self-restraint, its demand for a return to the situation prevailing prior to the beginning of August 1996 and its call for compliance with the Agreement on Principles signed by the two countries on 21 May 1996 in Paris, which requires that the dispute be settled by peaceful means,

Expresses its strong commitment to the need to foster security and stability in the Red Sea area and to the historical relations of good-neighbourliness that link the Republic of Yemen and the State of Eritrea;

Affirms its full support for the Agreement on Principles signed by the Republic of Yemen and the State of Eritrea and for the efforts being made by France for the peaceful settlement of the dispute, and stresses the need for urgent steps to be taken to complete the arbitration procedures and for the provisions of the Agreement on Principles to be implemented by the two neighbouring countries.

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S/1996/797
27 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 27 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT OBSERVER OF PALESTINE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to request that, in accordance with its previous practice, the Security Council invite H.E. Mr. Farouk Kaddoumi, Head of the Observer Delegation of Palestine to the fifty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly and Head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to participate in the current debate of the Security Council with regard to the situation in the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and the latest illegal Israeli action in Jerusalem.

(Signed) Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations

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General Assembly
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GENERAL

A/51/419
S/1996/798
27 September 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC AND FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda items 33 and 35
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 26 September 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 26 September 1996 from His Majesty King Hassan II, in his capacity as President of the Seventh Summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and President of the Al-Quds Committee, concerning the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33 and 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ahmed SNOUSSI

ANNEX

Letter dated 26 September 1996 from the President of the Seventh Summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, President of the Al-Quds Committee, addressed to the Secretary-General

Following the opening by the Israeli Government of a tunnel under the Al-Aqsa Mosque to Al-Quds al-Sharif, resulting in bloody and distressing incidents that spread throughout the Palestinian territory causing casualties among innocent, unarmed martyrs, we are writing to you in our capacity as President of the Seventh Summit of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and of the Al-Quds Committee in order to denounce this act of provocation which has aroused the emotions of Arabs and Muslims and is in flagrant violation of all the international resolutions recommending the preservation of the historic sites in the holy city.

This act illustrates the policy that has been systematically adopted by, and confirms the three "no's" of, the present Israeli Government.

We are now facing a new reality which categorically repudiates all that was agreed at the Madrid Conference, as well as the Accords signed between the Palestinian National Authority and Israel, particularly the section relating to the final status of Al-Quds al-Sharif.

Israel has violated the terms of these Accords by taking measures designed to isolate the town of Al-Quds, extend the settlements and restrict building activities in the Arab quarters, not to mention the archaeological digs which may undermine the foundations of the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Our faith in peace was absolute. We had defended it in the hope that it would be just, comprehensive and lasting, and would therefore meet the aspirations of the region, and because we were convinced that the era of coexistence in this land - cradle of religions - had become an incontestable reality. Now, however, we find, to our bitter disappointment, that our conviction was not shared by the other party.

Just as we unanimously pay tribute to the efforts made by the Palestinian National Authority to honour its international commitments, despite the measures taken to seal it off and the suffering endured by the Palestinian people in its occupied territories, so we find that Israel is persisting in its arrogance and in its violation of the principles and obligations to which it had subscribed. It is pursuing, by force, a policy of fait accompli which will merely result in deadlock and a return to the cycle of violence and instability in the region.

While affirming that we reject this Israeli option, which seeks to impose a fait accompli on us, we reiterate, on behalf of the entire Islamic Ummah, our condemnation of the Israeli actions, which are contrary to the spirit of the heavenly religions, to international legality and to the accords concluded - with the unanimous blessing of the international community - between the parties to the conflict.

In this regard, we ask you to see to it that this message is issued as an official document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council, so that the international community may assume its responsibility by imposing what is right and opposing any measure that might undermine the legitimate rights of Arabs and Muslims.

Hassan II
King of Morocco

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S/1996/799
27 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 27 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GUINEA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to request that the Security Council extend an invitation per rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure to His Excellency Ambassador Engin A. Ansay, Permanent Observer of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to the United Nations, during the Council's discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Occupied Arab Territories".

(Signed) Mahawa Bangoura CAMARA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

96-25518 (E) 270996

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Security Council

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S/1996/800
27 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 27 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I would like to draw your attention to Security Council document S/1996/774 submitted by a south Korean representative, which has provoked our response.

As was already explained through the statement of the spokesman of the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces dated 23 September 1996 (see S/1996/768, annex), a unit of the Korean People's Army left the port of Wonsan on 13 September 1996 aboard a small training submarine and conducted a routine training on the waters of our side of the East Sea. It so happened that the submarine had sudden engine trouble, drifted and was stranded aground on the waters of Kangrung.

However, the south Korean authorities are exaggerating the incident in an attempt to make use of the incident for their own political purpose.

It is imprudent for south Korea, which is not party to the Korean Armistice Agreement, to talk about the observance of the Korean Armistice Agreement. From the beginning, the south Korean authorities objected to the conclusion of the Korean Armistice Agreement, and in collaboration with the American troops destroyed the armistice agreement systematically while hastening war preparations.

Through this incident the world once again witnessed the true colour of their barbarousness and beastliness.

Our people and people's army have become vehemently indignant about the manslaughter by the enemies.

If the enemies do not return our small submarine, survivors and the dead unconditionally while continuing to make ill use of the incident for the sinister political purpose, we will be forced to take strong countermeasures.

The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will closely watch the development of the situation.

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I should be grateful if you would have both the present letter and its annexes (the report on the emergency joint meeting of the Government, political parties and social organizations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the statement of the Korean Central News Agency) circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) KIM Hyong U
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex I

Report on the emergency joint meeting of the Government political parties and social organizations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, dated 26 September 1996

An emergency joint meeting of the Government, political parties and social organizations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was held on 26 September 1996 in relation to recent grave state of the situation on the Korean peninsula which is being driven to the brink of war by the south Korean authorities.

The joint meeting was attended by Comrade Pak Song Chol, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Vice-President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Comrade Yang Hyong Sup, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and President of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Mr. Kim Byong Sik, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Social Democratic Party of Korea, Ms. Ryu Mi Yong, Chairwoman of the Central Committee of the Chunduist Chongu Party, as well as other high ranking officials of Government, political parties and social organizations.

The issue addressed in the meeting was "on taking countermeasures to the reckless provocative schemes of south Korean authorities who are driving the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war".

Participants in the joint meeting condemned the south Korean authorities for brutally killing our People's army men who could not but go ashore off Kangrung, south Korea, owing to sudden engine trouble during routine training on 18 September 1996, and unanimously stressed that the south Korean authorities should pay dearly for their sinister acts.

The emergency joint meeting adopted a decision on taking strong countermeasures in response to the dangerous manoeuvre of the Kim Yong Sam cliques who are misusing the recently occurred accident during a training mission, aggravating the north-south confrontation and driving the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war in succession to the brutal crackdown on the peaceful unification events organized by the students of "Han Chong Ryon" of south Korea on 15 August 1996 by unreasonably relating those to us.

Annex II

Statement of the Korean Central News Agency
dated 27 September 1996

As already reported, a subunit of the Korean People's Army was on routine training aboard a small training submarine in the waters of the north side of the East Sea of Korea on 18 September but engine trouble compelled it to drift southward and run aground in the waters of the south side off Kangrung.

In this connection, the spokesman of the Ministry of the People's Armed Forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in a statement dated 23 September, officially confirmed that a small training submarine of the Korean People's Army was stranded in the waters of the south side and demanded that the submarine and the surviving and dead soldiers be returned unconditionally and immediately.

This expressed the goodwill and wish of the north side that the accident would not develop into tension or misfortune that it is not helpful to peace and the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula.

The south Korean authorities, however, did not reciprocate our goodwill to solve the problem peacefully but answered it with evermore vicious slander and challenge to the north side and are continuing to use the accident for sinister political purposes.

From the beginning, they adopted a provocative attitude that is very dangerous.

Although they directly confirmed that the submarine of the north side was stranded off Kangrung while drifting after engine trouble on 18 September, they branded it as an "armed spy boat" and started a provocative campaign.

Although they judged that the crew of the submarine could not but go ashore because the boat was stranded, they branded them as "intruding spies" and mobilized a joint army-police search team to kill them.

The soldiers of the north side should have been rescued and protected because they were in danger after an accident in the sea while engaging in training.

To the consternation of the people, the soldiers of the north side were branded by the south Korean authorities as "armed spies" and "armed communist bandits" and became the target of military attack of the south Korean army-police search team.

The south Korean authorities mobilized helicopters and tens of thousands of troops, policemen and reserve forces to search the mountains and residential quarters in the Kangrung area day and night and to kill the Korean People's Army soldiers, who had no self-defence arms.

In the course of this, nearly 20 soldiers of the north side were killed in cold blood.

There were no grounds and conditions for them to become the target of gunfire.

They had no arms and equipment needed for intrusion or destruction. Moreover, those who were killed were crewmen including the captain, the chief engineer and navigator, as was reported by south Korean radios. What could they do on the land after abandoning the boat?

As regards the south Korean authorities' propaganda about "intrusion of an armed spy boat" and "armed spies", officials of the United States, Japan and other Western nations express doubt, saying "it is not clear whether it was an intrusion and what the intruders intended to do".

This is a denial of the argument about "intrusion" and "spies".

As a matter of fact, the soldiers of the north side went ashore without any weapons because they left in the boat the personal arms they had used in training. And they did not attack or destroy anything and did not hurt anyone there.

The south Korean authorities are aggravating the tension by using the accident, which could have been settled peacefully, for the purpose of inter-Korean confrontation.

What they seek is clear.

The Kim Young San regime is extremely uneasy in a serious political and economic crisis at home and abroad.

In south Korea, they are exposed to attacks from broad segments of people and opposition parties on the threshold of "presidential election" campaign.

In north-south relations, they are not recognized as a dialogue partner.

They are extremely worried as they might lose the patronage of the United States and Japan.

The south Korean authorities seek a way out of this crisis in aggravating the tensions by slandering fellow countrymen and firing guns on the Korean peninsula.

If the Korean People's Army soldiers had been such "commandoes" or intruders as are described by the south Korean puppets, they would have had arms and equipment for that purpose and would have annihilated the puppet troops and policemen even if they were 10,000 strong.

The Kim Young Sam group's frantic anti-Democratic People's Republic of Korea campaign over the accident is no more than a reckless act of those who have committed crimes against the nation.

The south Korean authorities are mistaken, however.

Even if they ask their United States and Japanese masters for help, bring the case to the United Nations General Assembly and threaten to re-examine their "policy on north Korea", they can never produce a "spy boat" and "spies" as there is no shower falling from a clear sky.

Their campaign over the fictitious "spy boat" and "spies" will only aggravate the situation and lead to war on the Korean peninsula.

The traitor Kim young Sam called for a "strong countermeasure" and agitated for war, saying that the United States or Japan would have declared war against the country that infiltrated an "armed submarine and special unit". This clearly shows where he wants to lead the case.

His statement cannot be construed otherwise than meaning that he would start a war against the north.

Our position towards peace and war is already known well. We want peace, but we are fully prepared to punish those who disturb peace.

As the flame was kindled in south Korea, we cannot remain a victim for an indefinite period.

When the south Korean puppets brutally cracked down on the patriotic pro-reunification events of the South Korean Federation of University Student Councils and students around 15 August with the mobilization of hundreds of thousands of combat police and injured and imprisoned thousands of them in an anti-communist fascist frenzy against the north, we controlled ourselves and hoped they would act with reason.

Even when the south Korean authorities fired at our soldiers from the wrecked boat and killed many of them, we displayed maximum self-restraint and asked them to return the boat, survivors and dead bodies, out of a desire to solve the problem peacefully.

Our demand is an exercise of the victim's legitimate right. The south Korean authorities, the offenders, should have approached our legitimate demand with goodwill. But, they answered our demand with the mobilization of many more troops and police for a more brutal operation to kill the survivors and with a campaign of exaggerating and "internationalizing" the incident.

It is self-evident that we the victims cannot show self-restraint any longer as the offenders behave more arrogantly.

As victims, we have the right to retaliate on the offenders. Our retaliation may be hundredfold or thousandfold. No matter what kind of retaliation we may make, the south Korean puppets will be wholly to blame.

Firing should be answered with firing.

The south Korean bellicose elements are approaching the danger line with reckless firing.

The south Korean authorities must immediately stop their ill-intentioned campaign over our wrecked boat and return our submarine and surviving and dead crewmen immediately and unconditionally.

Time is not unlimited.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1996/801
27 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS IRAQ-KUWAIT OBSERVATION MISSION

(1 April 1996-23 September 1996)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report gives an account of developments and activities in respect of the mandate entrusted to the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM), in accordance with Security Council resolutions 687 (1991), 689 (1991) and 806 (1993). It covers the period from 1 April to 23 September 1996.

II. DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE

2. The situation in the demilitarized zone (DMZ) remained generally calm, with no major violations or serious incidents. However, in the first two weeks of September, tensions increased in the Mission area following the Iraqi military operations in the north of the country and the subsequent missile attacks by the United States of America against targets in Iraq. On 9 September 1996, the Iraqi authorities requested UNIKOM to modify the route of its regular transport flight between Kuwait and Baghdad (Habaniya), and to use instead an international flight corridor through Saudi Arabia. Such a detour would have created operational difficulties and, at the request of UNIKOM, the original route was restored by Iraq on 15 September.

3. There was an increase in the number of complaints made by the two parties. UNIKOM received 32 complaints: 19 from Kuwait, 12 from Iraq and 1 common to both. (In the previous reporting period, UNIKOM received nine complaints: three from Iraq and six from Kuwait.) Iraq filed complaints regarding territorial and weapons violations on the Khawr Abd Allah waterway, three of which were lodged at United Nations Headquarters by the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations. Complaints from Kuwait dealt mainly with armed robberies in the Abdaly farm area and firing at Kuwaiti police patrols and posts from across the border. In response to the latter, UNIKOM took precautionary measures to defuse potential tensions by posting a patrol in the most sensitive area for several weeks.

4. UNIKOM investigated all complaints submitted by the parties. It verified 23 violations: six on land and 16 in the air. Two cases on land involved an Iraqi and three unidentified individuals who crossed the border to Kuwait, seeking asylum and other assistance. Another three cases were related to the carrying of weapons and movement of military vehicles by Kuwaiti nationals on the Kuwaiti side of the DMZ. In one case, two Iraqi nationals erroneously crossed the border with a truck and were apprehended by the Kuwaiti authorities. They were eventually returned to Iraq through UNIKOM. The air violations involved overflights by helicopters and by F-15 and A-10 aircraft. Such aircraft are used by the coalition forces, but the nationalities could not be identified. On 3 September 1996, UNIKOM observed eight cruise missiles flying over the DMZ into Iraq.

5. Several complaints could not be verified because of the time that had elapsed between the alleged incident and receipt of the complaint. UNIKOM has requested both parties to avoid similar delays in the future.

6. There was an increase in activity on the Khawr Abd Allah waterway, mostly attributable to the presence of fishing boats in the peak fishing season from May through July. At times, fishermen strayed across the unmarked maritime boundary. There were a number of serious complaints, including two lodged by Iraq on 22 and 23 May, alleging that Kuwaiti boats had entered Iraqi waters and opened fire on Iraqi patrol boats. On 30 June, Iraq complained about the presence of two armed Kuwaiti boats in the waterway. These complaints could not be verified by UNIKOM.

7. Economic activities in Umm Qasr port and in the areas where oilfields are located in the DMZ also increased. These included the docking of 14 ships carrying food for Iraq at the port of Umm Qasr, and the arrival of tugboats in preparation for an increase in shipping activity in the Khawr Abd Allah waterway, expected as a result of the implementation of resolution 986 (1995). Maintenance work on railways and roads leading to and from the port was also stepped up.

8. On the Kuwaiti side, oil drilling and survey activities intensified over the past two months. Kuwait has also begun to construct a second berm and trench from the coast near Bubiyan Island along the outer edge of the DMZ. The purpose is to control entry from Kuwait into the DMZ. The new berm and trench overlaps the DMZ for a length of about 20 kilometres and a depth of three kilometres to take in the Abdaly farm area. Kuwait has also begun to restore its coastguard posts on Warbah and Bubiyan Islands.

9. UNIKOM monitored these activities from patrol and observation bases, from temporary observation points and using ground and air patrols. In the light of the increased number of complaints, UNIKOM has stepped up its patrols in the DMZ. I have also agreed, on the Force Commander's recommendation, to improve the monitoring of the Khawr Abd Allah waterway by setting up an additional observation post on Warbah Island and by upgrading radar and night vision equipment on the two existing observation posts located on Al Faw, and at the entrance to the Al Zubayr waterway, respectively. I am also looking into the possibility of providing UNIKOM with two small boats to enable it to patrol on the water and to intervene when necessary to prevent confrontations.

10. UNIKOM also provided security and logistical support for six meetings of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Technical Subcommittee on Military and Civilian Missing Prisoners of War and Mortal Remains. These meetings were conducted in the DMZ alternately at UNIKOM headquarters at Umm Qasr and at its support base at Camp Khor. UNIKOM also facilitated the exchange of civilians across the Iraq-Kuwait border as arranged by ICRC between the two countries.

11. UNIKOM continued to maintain constant and close liaison with the authorities of the host countries at various levels, including through its liaison offices in Baghdad and Kuwait City. Both parties cooperated fully with the Mission to enable it to carry out its tasks.

III. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

12. The streamlining of UNIKOM referred to in my previous report (S/1996/225, para. 12) is proceeding as planned. On 10 June 1996, the operational sectors in the DMZ were reduced from three to two. Consequently, the Mission's area of operations is now divided into the northern sector, with 10 patrol and observation bases, and the southern sector, with eight patrol and observation bases. In the northern sector, the sector headquarters and two patrol and observation bases were relocated to improve both command and control and surveillance of the area between the agricultural zone (Safwan in Iraq, Abdaly in Kuwait), and the Al Rutqah oilfield. The current deployment is shown in the attached map. The reduction in the number of military observers will be completed in April 1997. Concurrently, the streamlining of the civilian component of UNIKOM is being effected.

13. As of September 1996, the overall strength of UNIKOM was 1,356, as follows:

(a) Two hundred and twelve military observers from Argentina (4), Austria (6), Bangladesh (10), Canada (4), China (13), Denmark (6), Fiji (5), Finland (6), France (12), Ghana (6), Greece (5), Hungary (6), India (5), Indonesia (6), Ireland (5), Italy (6), Kenya (6), Malaysia (5), Nigeria (5), Pakistan (7), Poland (6), Romania (5), Russian Federation (11), Senegal (6), Singapore (7), Sweden (6), Thailand (5), Turkey (5), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (15), Uruguay (5), United States of America (11) and Venezuela (2);

(b) An infantry battalion of 775 from Bangladesh;

(c) An engineer unit of 50 from Argentina;

(d) A logistics unit of 34 from Austria;

(e) A helicopter unit of 29 from Bangladesh;

(f) A medical unit of 15 from Germany;

(g) Two hundred and forty one civilian staff, of whom 71 were recruited internationally.

Major-General Gian Giuseppe Santillo (Italy) continued as Force Commander.

IV. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

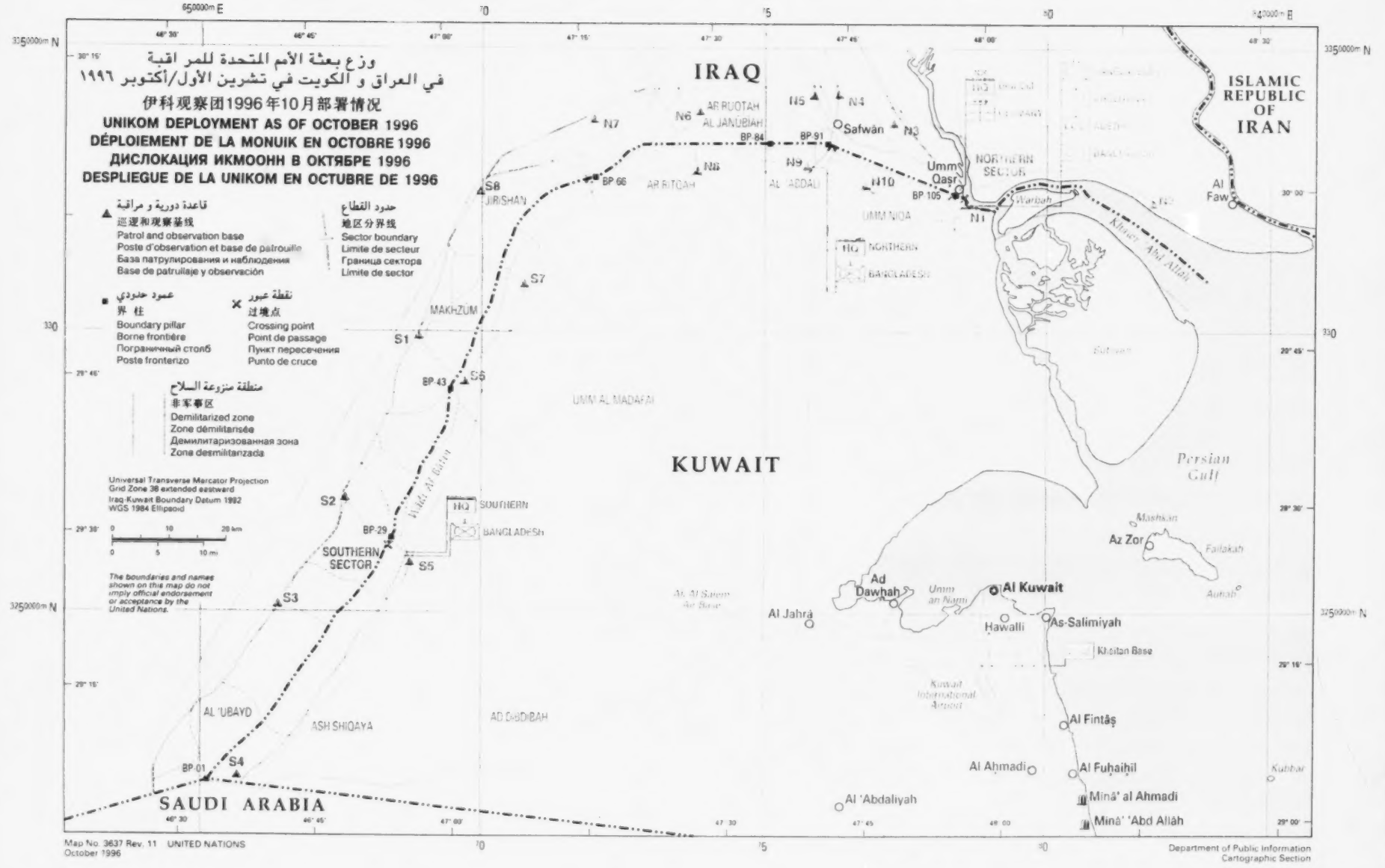
14. The General Assembly, by its resolution 50/234 of 7 June 1996, appropriated $52,141,900 gross for the maintenance of UNIKOM for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, subject to review by the Security Council with regard to the question of termination or continuation of the Mission. Two thirds of the cost of the Mission, equivalent to some $33.4 million, is to be funded through voluntary contributions from the Government of Kuwait. Assessments on Member States have been made for the period ending 31 October 1996 and the Government of Kuwait has paid its voluntary contributions for the period ending 30 April 1996.

15. As at 15 September 1996, unpaid assessed contributions to the Special Account for UNIKOM since the inception of the Mission through 31 October 1996 amounted to $23.8 million, which represents some 12 per cent of the assessment for the Mission. The unpaid assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations amounted to $2.1 billion.

V. OBSERVATIONS

16. UNIKOM continued to contribute to the maintenance of calm and stability in the DMZ. The situation along the border was generally quiet, despite the events in Iraq in early September. UNIKOM received cooperation from the Governments of both Iraq and Kuwait in the discharge of its duties. I recommend that the Mission be maintained.

17. In conclusion, I wish to pay tribute to the Force Commander and to the men and women under his command for the manner in which they have carried out their task. Their discipline and bearing have been of a high order, reflecting credit on themselves, on their countries and on the United Nations.


وزع بعثة الأمم المتحدة للمراقبة
في العراق و الكويت في تشرين الأول/أكتوبر ١٩٩٦
伊科观察团1996年10月部署情况
UNIKOM DEPLOYMENT AS OF OCTOBER 1996
DÉPLOIEMENT DE LA MONUIK EN OCTOBRE 1996
ДИСЛОКАЦИЯ ИКМООНН В ОКТЯБРЕ 1996
DESPLIEGUE DE LA UNIKOM EN OCTUBRE DE 1996
قاعدة دورية و مراقبة
巡逻和观察基线
Patrol and observation base
Poste d'observation et base de patrouille
База патрулирования и наблюдения
Base de patrullaje y observación
حدود القطاع
地区分界线
Sector boundary
Limite de secteur
Граница сектора
Límite de sector
عمود حدودي
界 柱
Boundary pillar
Borne frontière
Пограничный столб
Poste fronterizo
نقطة عبور
过境点
Crossing point
Point de passage
Пункт пересечения
Punto de cruce
منطقة منزوعة السلاح
非军事区
Demilitarized zone
Zone démilitarisée
Демилитаризованная зона
Zona desmilitanzada
Universal Transverse Mercator Projection
Grid Zone 38 extended eastward
Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Datum 1992
WGS 1984 Ellipsoid
The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.
IRAQ
KUWAIT
SAUDI ARABIA
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
NORTHERN SECTOR
SOUTHERN SECTOR
HQ NORTHERN BANGLADESH
HQ SOUTHERN BANGLADESH
AR RUOTAH
AL JANUBIAH
AR RITQAH
AL 'ABDALI
UMM NOA
JIRISHAN
MAKHZUM
UMM AL MADAFAI
Wadi Al Batin
AL 'UBAYD
ASH SHIQAYA
AD DIBDIBAH
Safwān
Umm Qasr
Warbah
Khawr Abd Allah
Bubiyan
Persian Gulf
Mashkan
Az Zor
Failakah
Auhah
Ad Dawhah
Umm an Nami
Al Kuwait
Al Jahrā
Hawalli
As-Salimiyah
Khaitan Base
Kuwait International Airport
Al Fintās
Al Ahmadi
Al Fuḥaiḥil
Kubbar
Al 'Abdaliyah
Minā' al Ahmadi
Minā' 'Abd Allāh
Al Faw
Map No. 3637 Rev. 11 UNITED NATIONS
October 1996
Department of Public Information
Cartographic Section

UNITED NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1996/802
26 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 26 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF CHINA, FRANCE, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement issued after the meeting which you had with our Ministers for Foreign Affairs on 26 September 1996. We should be grateful if you would have it circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) QIN Huasun
Permanent Representative of
China to the United Nations

(Signed) Alain DEJAMMET
Permanent Representative of
France to the United Nations

(Signed) Sergei V. LAVROV
Permanent Representative of
the Russian Federation to
the United Nations

(Signed) John WESTON
Permanent Representative of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland to the
United Nations

(Signed) Madeleine K. ALBRIGHT
Permanent Representative of
the United States of America
to the United Nations

96-25693 (E) 270996

Annex

[Original: English, Chinese, French and Russian]

Statement issued on 26 September 1996 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the five permanent members of the Security Council following a meeting with the Secretary-General

1. On 26 September 1996, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the five permanent members met the Secretary-General of the United Nations, H.E. Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali. H.E. Mr. Qian Qichen, Vice Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, represented the People's Republic of China; H.E. Mr. Hervé de Charette, Minister of Foreign Affairs, France; H.E. Mr. Yevgueni Primakov, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Russian Federation; H.E. Mr. Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and H.E. Mr. Warren Christopher, Secretary of State, the United States of America.

2. The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the United Nations as it enters its second half-century, an Organization whose Charter lays down the fundamental principles for an international order based on peace and security, sustainable development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Ministers also took the opportunity to welcome the contribution made by the Secretary-General to enhancing the work of the United Nations and promoting the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.

3. They expressed their appreciation for the efforts made by the United Nations to maintain international peace and security and stressed the primary responsibility of the Security Council in this respect. They agreed on the importance of further improving the Organization's ability to respond effectively to threats to international peace and security and of Member States shouldering in full the responsibilities incumbent on them under the Charter. The Ministers also recognized the need for effective and properly coordinated measures of post-conflict peace-building which should complement efforts at peacemaking and peacekeeping. They also welcomed the growing role of regional organizations and arrangements in maintaining stability and security and affirmed the importance they attached to reinforcing cooperation between the United Nations and such organizations as foreseen in Chapter VIII of the Charter.

4. The Ministers stressed the need to make progress towards revitalizing, strengthening and reforming the United Nations system and undertook to strive to ensure a timely and effective outcome to the efforts of the high-level working groups established by the General Assembly. They stressed once again in this context the high political importance that they attach to the need to find a solution to the financial problems afflicting the United Nations with a view to ensuring a sound and fair, and therefore stable, financial basis for the Organization, thereby enabling the United Nations to fulfil its mandates. They

emphasized the importance of full and punctual payment of Member States' financial contributions.

5. The Ministers expressed their determination to fight terrorism. They welcomed the growing commitment within the international community to condemn terrorism wherever and by whomever committed, regardless of its motives; to make no concessions to terrorists; to ensure that terrorists are brought to justice; and to implement means, consistent with fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, to fight terrorism effectively. They undertook to work with all States, in full observance of the principles and standards of international law and human rights, in order to achieve the goal of eliminating terrorism, as affirmed in the Declaration adopted by the General Assembly in December 1994, and to pursue measures, including new international instruments, to that end.

6. The Ministers welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty which is now open for signature. They stressed that this Treaty is a major achievement and a significant contribution to nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. They also stressed the importance they attached to the entry into force of the Convention on Chemical Weapons (CWC) and to the early conclusion of the Work of the Ad Hoc Group of States parties to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention tasked with drawing up a regime to strengthen confidence in compliance with that Convention.

7. The Ministers remained concerned at the persistence of conflicts, most of them fought within rather than between States, in many parts of Africa. They supported the efforts of the United Nations, alongside the Organization of African Unity and subregional organizations, to promote peace and stability and stressed the importance they attach to assistance to African countries to help them to enhance their own capabilities for peacekeeping and conflict prevention.

8. The Ministers welcomed the recent, more positive developments in Sierra Leone, Rwanda and Angola. They expressed their support for the work of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and encouraged the Government of Rwanda to continue to pursue the process of national reconciliation. They welcomed the recent elections in Sierra Leone and underlined the need to bring the negotiations on national reconciliation to a successful conclusion as soon as possible. The Ministers strongly believed that progress in Angola must be maintained and strengthened through the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol in full and without delay. They emphasized the peace process has reached a crucial moment and expect the parties, especially UNITA, to make the necessary contributions to its success. The Ministers stressed the need for the parties to the Liberian conflict to resolve their differences peacefully and to abide by the commitments entered into at Abuja. Humanitarian aid has to be allowed to flow freely. They paid tribute to the efforts undertaken by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), as well as those of the United Nations, to bring peace to Liberia and appealed to the international community to provide further support for this regional initiative. The Ministers expressed their grave concern at the continued violence and at the political crisis in Burundi. They stressed the need for the leaders of the regime and of all factions inside and outside Burundi to stop the violence, to ensure security for all the people of Burundi, to restore constitutional order and to start negotiations aimed at reaching a comprehensive political settlement. They

stressed the importance of allowing humanitarian assistance to needy groups. They emphasized their support for the regional mediation efforts including those of former President Nyerere and the OAU. They underlined the importance of convening at an appropriate time a Regional Conference of the Great Lakes Region under the auspices of the United Nations and the OAU.

9. The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the efforts of the Security Council, the Secretary-General and the Member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States to bring to an end the conflicts in the countries of the former Soviet Union. They expressed their appreciation for the cooperative working relationship between the United Nations and the Russian Federation in seeking to bring about a comprehensive settlement of the conflicts in both Abkhazia, Georgia and Tajikistan, for the close cooperation between the United Nations missions (UNOMIG and UNMOT) and the CIS peacekeeping forces and for the contribution made by the Russian Federation to the CIS forces. The Ministers expressed their concern at the serious deterioration of the situation in Tajikistan and the growing tension along the Tajik-Afghan border. They recalled the commitments made by the Government of Tajikistan and by the leadership of the United Tajik Opposition to resolve the conflict and to achieve national reconciliation through peaceful means.

10. The Ministers expressed their concern at the recent escalation of fighting in Afghanistan. They affirmed their support for revitalized United Nations efforts to find a solution to the conflict there, welcomed the appointment of the new Head of the United Nations Special Mission and urged all parties to cooperate with the Special Mission.

11. The Ministers reaffirmed that the status quo in Cyprus is unacceptable and urged both sides to make a determined effort to achieve a comprehensive political settlement. They expressed their concern at the recent tension between the two communities and called on both sides to exercise restraint. They stressed their support for the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Cyprus and the importance of concerted efforts to work with the Secretary-General towards a comprehensive settlement. In this context, they also noted the decision of the European Union concerning the opening of accession negotiations with Cyprus.

12. The Ministers expressed their support for the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the work of the United Nations Secretary-General to implement Security Council resolution 986. They reaffirmed that Iraq must comply fully and unconditionally with all its obligations under the relevant Security Council resolutions.

13. The Ministers expressed their deep concern about the tragic events in Jerusalem and the areas of Nablus, Ramallah and Gaza, called for the immediate cessation of all actions that result in the aggravation of the situation and for the reversal of such actions; they urged all parties to exercise restraint, to resume the peace process without delay and to fulfil their obligations, including the agreements already reached.

14. The Ministers welcomed the successful holding of elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina on 14 September. They called on the new Presidency and other

elected officials to work closely together without delay to establish the new common institutions and to promote reconciliation and tolerance. The Ministers confirmed their support for the continued implementation of the Peace Agreement and for the establishment of a democratic and pluralistic State of Bosnia and Herzegovina, composed of two entities. The prime responsibility for implementing the Peace Agreement lies with the different communities and their leaders. Without compliance and active participation in rebuilding a civil society, they cannot expect the international community and major donor countries to shoulder the main burden of the implementation and reconstruction effort. They also recalled the obligation of States and entities under the Peace Agreement to cooperate fully with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, including the immediate execution of all arrest warrants and the transfer to the Tribunal of all persons indicted.

15. The Ministers welcomed the progress made by UNTAES in implementing the Basic Agreement on Eastern Slavonia and expressed their willingness to consider extending the duration of its mandate in order to ensure the successful completion of UNTAES' task. They called upon the Government of Croatia to cooperate fully with UNTAES so as to ensure the early achievement of the objectives of the Basic Agreement.

16. The Ministers underlined that sustainable development is indispensable to the achievement and maintenance of peace, security and prosperity among, within and between nations. They noted the crucial role played by the United Nations in assisting developing countries, as well as countries making the transition to a market economy, in their efforts to achieve broad-based and sustained economic growth in the context of sustainable development, organizing international cooperation in favour of sustainable development, and in fostering consensus around development objectives and purposes. The Ministers noted that many developing countries were experiencing robust growth, assisted by their expanding involvement in international trade and capital inflows. But they noted at the same time the growing divide between those countries and others, mainly low-income countries, which are currently not benefiting from these opportunities and are falling further behind. Developing countries, developed countries and multilateral institutions need to work together to ensure all developing countries, whatever their stage of development, are able to share and participate in the increased prosperity which globalization of the world economy is bringing. In this context, the Ministers noted the continuing work on an Agenda for Development. They underlined the importance of concentrating on the effective and integrated implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the recent series of global conferences. They looked forward to the special session of the General Assembly in 1997 which would review progress since the Rio Earth Summit, reaffirm the importance of sustainable development and identify priorities for the years ahead.

17. The Ministers thanked the Secretary-General for this exchange of views and believed that the continuation of close consultations between the Foreign Ministers of the five permanent members of the Security Council and the Secretary-General is very useful.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1996/803
28 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Having considered the letter dated 26 September 1996 from the representative of Saudi Arabia on behalf of the States Members of the League of Arab States, contained in document S/1996/790, that referred to the action by the Government of Israel to open an entrance to a tunnel in the vicinity of Al Aqsa Mosque and its consequent results,

Expressing its deep concern about the tragic events in Jerusalem and the areas of Nablus, Ramallah, Bethlehem and the Gaza Strip, which resulted in a high number of deaths and injuries among the Palestinian civilians, and concerned also about the clashes between the Israeli army and the Palestinian police and the casualties on both sides,

Recalling its resolutions on Jerusalem and other relevant Security Council resolutions,

Having discussed the situation at its formal meeting on 27 September 1996, with the participation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of a number of countries,

Concerned about the difficulties facing the Middle East peace process and the deterioration of the situation, including inter alia its impact on the living conditions of the Palestinian people, and urging the parties to fulfil their obligations, including the agreements already reached,

Concerned about developments at the Holy Places of Jerusalem,

1. Calls for the immediate cessation and reversal of all acts which have resulted in the aggravation of the situation, and which have negative implications for the Middle East peace process;

2. Calls for the safety and protection of Palestinian civilians to be ensured;

3. Calls for the immediate resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process on its agreed basis and the timely implementation of the agreements reached;

4. Decides to follow closely the situation and to remain seized of the matter.

UNITED
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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/51/429
S/1996/804
28 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Agenda items 33, 35 and 85
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS
OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 28 September 1996 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Following my last three letters to you, dated 24, 25 and 26 September 1996 (A/51/400-S/1996/779, A/51/407-S/1996/786 and A/51/411-S/1996/791), I have been instructed to bring the following to your immediate attention.

On Friday, 27 September 1996, the Israeli army and police, in yet another escalation of the situation in occupied East Jerusalem, stormed into the holy area of Al-Haram Al-Sharif shooting at Palestinian prayers and causing three deaths and injuring 120. The three Palestinians killed were:

1. Mr. Jawad Abdel-Halim Hijazi Al Bazlamit - 20 years old;
2. Mr. Aymen Yehya Mustafa Edkidi - 25 years old;
3. Mr. Ibrahim Ali Muosa Abu-Ghanam - 22 years old.

This additional crime committed by the Israeli occupying authorities confirms the intention of the Israeli Government to further change the existing situation of the holy places, as well as the situation of Jerusalem as a whole.

Since the opening of the tunnel on Monday, 23 September 1996, the Israeli Government continues to further escalate the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, by adamant provocative declarations and statements as well as continued army and police attacks on Palestinian

civilians, causing greater casualties. While the casualties continue to increase, today they stand at more than 80 killed and more than 1,000 injured.

The situation described above adds urgency to the needed actions by the Security Council.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 33, 35 and 85, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nasser AL-KIDWA
Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1996/805
30 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

You will recall that, by its resolution 1051 (1996), the Security Council approved the mechanism for monitoring sales or supplies by other countries to Iraq of items relevant to the implementation of section C of resolution 687 (1991) and other relevant resolutions, including resolution 715 (1991), and the plans approved thereunder. The mechanism became operative in respect of Iraq as at 26 May 1996 and it is now necessary to make a determination of the effective date upon which the mechanism will become operative in respect of States other than Iraq.

Paragraph 7 of resolution 1051 (1996) stipulates that notifications of exports to Iraq shall be provided to the joint unit, established at United Nations Headquarters by the Special Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), by all other States as from the date the Secretary-General and the Director General of IAEA, after their consultations with the members of the Council and other interested States, report to the Council indicating that they are satisfied with the preparedness of States for the effective implementation of the mechanism.

Consultations aiming at ascertaining the preparedness of States other than Iraq for the effective implementation of the mechanism have been conducted by the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission and their outcome was formally communicated to our respective offices on 16 September 1996. This outcome was generally positive. Attention, however, is drawn to the following communication from the Russian Federation:

> "The Russian Federation has informed the Special Commission that the competent Russian authorities are in the process of adapting the list of goods and technologies, the export of which to Iraq is subject to notification in accordance with Security Council resolutions 715 (1991) and 1051 (1996), to the requirements of national legislation. Upon completion of this task, the Russian Federation will notify the Secretary-General about the activation of the national export/import control mechanism.

"It is understood that the Russian Federation shall commence providing to the joint unit the notifications referred to in paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 1051 (1996) from the day of the activation of the national export/import control mechanism."

The communication from the Russian Federation would not appear to require any change in the assessment that it is possible to commence effective implementation of the mechanism, as other interested States are now in a position and are prepared to carry out the reporting requirements thereunder and the Russian Federation will do so as soon as it is ready.

You are kindly requested to submit the attached report to the Council as soon as possible in order that 1 October 1996 shall be the effective date from which States shall provide notifications of exports to Iraq required under the export/import mechanism approved in resolution 1051 (1996).

(Signed) Hans BLIX
Director General
International Atomic Energy Agency

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI
Secretary-General
United Nations

Annex

Effective date for notifications by States under the export/import mechanism for Iraq: report by the Secretary-General and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) pursuant to paragraph 7 of Security Council resolution 1051 (1996)

Introduction

1. By its resolution 1051 (1996) of 27 March 1996, the Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, approved the provisions for the monitoring mechanism of sales or supplies by other countries to Iraq of items relevant to the implementation of section C of resolution 687 (1991) and other relevant resolutions, including resolution 715 (1991), and the plans approved thereunder. The mechanism, as required by paragraph 7 of resolution 715 (1991), had been proposed to the Council by the Committee established under resolution 661 (1990) ("the Sanctions Committee"), the Special Commission and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (see S/1995/1017).

2. On 7 May 1996, pursuant to paragraph 14 of resolution 1051 (1996), all States were provided, under cover of a circular note, with all pertinent information regarding the export/import mechanism. That information included the lists of items to be notified and copies of the notification forms to be provided to the joint unit established by the Special Commission and IAEA at United Nations Headquarters to process such notifications.

3. The mechanism became operative in respect of Iraq as at 26 May 1996. Paragraph 7 of resolution 1051 (1996) states that notifications required from other States shall be provided to the joint unit by all other States as from the date the Secretary-General and the Director General of IAEA, after their consultations with members of the Council and other interested States, report to the Council indicating that they are satisfied with the preparedness of States for the effective implementation of the mechanism.

Preparedness of States other than Iraq for the effective implementation of the mechanism

4. On 18 July 1996, the Executive Chairman of the Special Commission addressed a letter to the members of the Security Council and other interested States that had previously had significant trading relations with Iraq. In that letter, he stated that informal contacts with a number of States appeared to indicate that they were, or very shortly would be, in a position to provide the necessary notifications. He pointed out that this was a matter which had become of increasing importance, given the expected implementation in the near future of Security Council resolution 986 (1995), pursuant to which it could be expected that Iraq would seek to import a variety of items subject to notification both by Iraq and by other States under the export/import monitoring mechanism. Consequently, unless by 15 September 1996 the Commission received sufficient indication in writing from the members of the Council and other interested

States that effective implementation of the mechanism was not possible by that date, the Executive Chairman indicated in his letter that he would recommend to the Secretary-General and the Director General of IAEA that they report to the Council, no later than 24 September 1996, that notifications required from States, other than Iraq, under the export/import monitoring mechanism, should be provided to the joint unit commencing on 1 October 1996. No such negative indications having been received by 15 September, the Executive Chairman recommended in communications of 16 September 1996 to the Secretary-General and to the Director General of IAEA that they report to the Council that they are satisfied with the preparedness of States for the effective implementation of the mechanism.

Effective date for notifications by States other than Iraq

5. The Secretary-General and the Director General of IAEA have considered the information contained in the Executive Chairman's communications to them of 16 September 1996. In the light of those communications and of the foregoing, and acting under paragraph 7 of resolution 1051 (1996), the Secretary-General and the Director General of IAEA can now report to the Council that they are satisfied with the preparedness of States for the effective implementation of the mechanism. In that regard, they have determined that 1 October 1996 shall be the effective date from which States shall provide notifications of exports to Iraq required under the export/import mechanism approved by the Council in that resolution.

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1996/806
30 September 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 29 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a letter dated 26 September 1996 addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, on the subject of the information disseminated on 18 September 1996 by the Reuters Agency.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

96-25788 (E) 300996 300996 011096

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Annex

Letter dated 26 September 1996 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to communicate to you the text of the information disseminated on 18 September 1996 by the Reuters Agency concerning the statement made by Major-General Gian Giuseppe Santillo, Commander of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM):

Major-General Gian Giuseppe Santillo, Commander of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM), stated that the missile attacks by the United States of America against Iraq constituted a violation of the frontier zone between Iraq and Kuwait. He added that the overflight of the frontier zone by unidentified military aircraft constituted a violation of the demilitarized zone established at the frontier, and that any military attack in that zone constituted a violation. The United Nations observers observed two military aircraft which overflew the zone at low altitude and entered Kuwaiti airspace from the north before turning and flying over the frontier in the direction of Iraq. According to eyewitnesses, the two aircraft appeared to belong to the United States Air Force, which penetrates Iraqi airspace from Kuwaiti territory. The UNIKOM official recalled that the Mission's observers had observed eight cruise missiles fired against Iraq by the United States forces stationed in the Gulf. The UNIKOM spokesman added that the sorties conducted by these aircraft constituted violations of which the Mission had informed United Nations Headquarters.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1996/807
30 September 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 29 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

1. At 1300 hours on 18 September 1996, when the Iraqi tugboat Ninawa was anchored between Mina al-Bakr and Mina al-Amiq within Iraqi territorial waters, a United States helicopter hovered over it and ordered the captain to assemble the crew at the stern and to await the arrival of the inspection authorities. At 1400 hours, two inflatable rafts approached. One of them, which had been launched from a United States frigate and was flying the American flag, had on board 15 servicemen armed with pistols. The other, flying the British flag, had been launched from a United Kingdom frigate and carried seven men. Then, seven of the Americans and four of the British boarded the tug and began inspecting it in a thoroughgoing and provocative manner. They broke open all the locks on the cabins, storage cabinets and crew's lockers and seized the ship's papers, the crew's identity and citizenship documents and other papers concerning the ship's contents, destination, construction and specifications and sent them to the United States frigate, where they were photocopied. At 1600 hours the men disembarked from the tugboat and returned to their respective ships.

2. At 2300 hours on 19 September 1996, when the Iraqi tugboat Sab'Nisan was located between Mina al-Bakr and Mina al-Amiq within Iraqi territorial waters, a United Kingdom frigate sent an order to the captain to proceed to a point six miles to the east of Mina al-Bakr and to anchor there. At 0630 hours on 20 September the frigate lowered an inflatable raft carrying 10 men armed with pistols and weapon detectors. The raft then returned to the frigate and transported another six men, bringing the total to 16, including several officers. They ordered the crew at gunpoint to assemble at the stern of the vessel and proceeded to inspect the entire contents of the tugboat, demanding the crew's identity documents, the certificate of registry and the logbook. Acting in a provocative manner, they forced open the locks on the cabin doors, scattered the crew's effects and photocopied all the ship's papers and the documents of the crew. After one of the officers of the boarding party had written a note concerning the inspection, in the ship's log, the tug was released, the detention and inspection of the vessel having continued until 0730 hours on 20 September.

I request that you fulfil your responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations vis-à-vis the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom in order to bring about the cessation and non-repetition of these unwarranted hostile and provocative acts carried out by their warships and military aircraft against Iraqi civilian shipping within Iraqi territorial waters. Such acts constitute a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law. I also reaffirm the right of the Republic of Iraq, as established by law and pursuant to the principle of international liability, to receive compensation for the harm it has suffered and the damage caused to its property in the course of these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

UNITED NATIONS **S**

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LETTER DATED 29 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that on 15 September 1996 two Kuwaiti military boats equipped with radios anchored at buoy No. 12 in the Khawr al-Khafqa canal. Having been observed by an Iraqi vessel, they left the buoy and headed for the Kuwaiti coast. At the same time, damage was caused to buoy No. 14, which lies near Mina al-Bakr, about three miles from buoy No. 12. It was tampered with and its light and batteries were destroyed.

I would request you to intervene with Kuwait in order to bring an end to such hostile acts, which are in contravention of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, constitute unjustified provocation and have damaged the lights affixed by Iraq to the buoys in the Khawr al-Khafqa canal leading to the oil terminals. There are a limited number of these lights, and because of the sanctions regime they cannot be replaced if lost.

I reaffirm the legitimate right of the Republic of Iraq to compensation for the material losses sustained as a consequence of these acts, in accordance with the principle of international responsibility.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Security Council

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S/1996/809
30 September 1996
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LETTER DATED 27 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States, British and French aircraft continued over the period 1 to 15 September 1996 and that these aircraft carried out reconnaissance and acts of provocation. Details are given in the annex attached.

I request you to intercede with the countries in question in order to halt these acts, which threaten the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq and constitute a gross violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause material damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legitimate compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex, the list of violations of Iraqi airspace, circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations of Iraq's airspace over the period 1 to 15 September 1996 by United States, British and French aircraft taking off from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait

United States, British and French military aircraft and the United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft taking off from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait violated the airspace of the Republic of Iraq on 999 occasions during the period 1 to 15 September 1996.

1. Six hundred and seventy-nine sorties were flown using Saudi territory as a base. Of these, 664 sorties were flown by fighter-bombers and 15 by the TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft.

2. Three hundred and twenty sorties were flown using Kuwait as a base.

The fighter-bombers flew at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres and at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour. The TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flew at altitudes of 20,000 metres and at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour. Times of entry into and exit from Iraqi airspace over this period were from 0705 hours to 2340 hours.

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NOTE VERBALE DATED 30 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF KAZAKSTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of Kazakstan to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and has the honour to transmit the text of a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakstan dated 28 September 1996 on the recent events in the Islamic State of Afghanistan.

The Permanent Mission of Kazakstan to the United Nations would be grateful for the circulation of this statement as a document of the Security Council.

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Annex

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakstan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakstan expresses serious concern over the recent events in Afghanistan. Further development of the armed conflict could lead to still greater losses of human life, the complete collapse of the economy and the disintegration of the country, and the destabilization of the situation in the region.

Kazakstan calls on the parties to the conflict on all concerned States in the region and on the international community to take urgent measures to halt the military action, ensure non-interference in the internal affairs of the sovereign Islamic State of Afghanistan and guarantee its territorial integrity.

In view of the sharp exacerbation of the crisis in Afghanistan, a meeting of the Security Council must be held immediately with the participation of the countries concerned for the purpose of drawing up urgent measures to halt the bloodshed, bring about a political settlement of the conflict and extend assistance to the civilian population and the numerous refugees.

Almaty
28 September 1996

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NOTE VERBALE DATED 30 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF KAZAKSTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of Kazakstan to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and has the honour to transmit the text of a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakstan dated 28 September 1996 on the recent events in the Middle East.

The Permanent Mission of Kazakstan to the United Nations would be grateful for the circulation of this statement as a document of the Security Council.

96-25800 (E) 300996 300996 011096

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Annex

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF KAZAKSTAN

The news of the many losses of life as a result of the bloody confrontations in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank caused by the building by the Israeli authorities of a tunnel under the Temple Mount in Old Jerusalem, not far from the Muslim Holy Places the Al-Aqsa and Qubbat al-Sakhrah Mosques was received in Kazakstan with great concern.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakstan considers that this development in the situation not only calls in question the further dialogue between Palestine and Israel, but also constitutes a serious threat to the entire peace process in the Middle East.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakstan calls on the parties involved in the conflict to show restraint and patience and to do everything possible to prevent actions capable of destroying the prospects of the long-awaited peace in the region.

Almaty
28 September 1996